

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 10 and 16 have been amended, and new claims 23-25 have been added. Claims 1-2, 6-14 and 16-25 are in this application for consideration.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-2, 6-14 and 16-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,003,065) and Inoue (U.S. Patent No. 6,456,388).

Amendment has been made to independent claims 1, 10 and 16 for purposes of overcoming the obviousness rejection to 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Additionally, new dependent claims 23-25 have also been added. The configuration of the web application server as a central location for storing applications and configuring settings for an appliance has been added as a limitation. The addition of multiple appliances has also been added via amended claim 16 as well as dependent claims 23-25. Accordingly, the obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is believed to be overcome, and claims 1-2, 6-14 and 16-25 are now believed to be allowable. Accordingly, action to that end is respectfully requested.

With respect to independent claim 21, Applicants' assert that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Yan et al. and Inoue at the time of the invention, to modify the system of Yan et al. with the application header of Inoue. Yan et al. is merely a peripheral device that executes a POST which, at boot up, inserts into a peripheral database information concerning the capabilities of the particular peripheral device. Applicants herein request reconsideration with respect to claims 21-22.

CONCLUSION

For all the reasons advanced above, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and action to that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner's next anticipated action is to be anything other than a Notice of Allowance, the undersigned respectfully requests a telephone interview before issuance of any such subsequent action.

Respectfully submitted,

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